



The BAARCer



January 2016

For Anyone Interested in Amateur Radio

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Club Call Sign: WØUJ

BAARC REPEATERS

53.110 MHz- 123.0 Hz
147.225 MHz+ (main rpt) r
 145.130 MHz- Echo Link
 Node number 233515
 443.925 MHz + 110.9 Hz
Packet: 145.670 MHz
 MNBRD, BRDBBS
 144.390 WØUJ APRS
Crosslake 147.030
 MHz+
Crosby 146.700 MHz-
 Tone 141.3
Crosby 444.925 MHz +
<http://brainerdham.org>
2016 OFFICERS

Pres. + Web Editor:

Steve Mott **NØCRM**

Vice President:

Lyle Amundson **KØLFV**

Secretary:

Ron Finger **KØGOP**

Treasurer:

Doug Bergsnev **KDØERE**

Director-at-Large:

Al Doree **WØRC**

**Trustee + BAARCer
Editor:**

Fritz Bertelt **WØKO**

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Our December Get-Together: Members Brought their Goodies to Share. Ideas for the Improvement of the Club's Repeater System were also presented. It was all informal.



Above left: TJ KØTEG, making an overhead presentation of the BAARC's Repeater Rating System he created to formalize a database for future analysis. In the middle, Dave KDØVJL doing a reading of what a non-ham could be tricked into confessing to in a real-life courtroom drama. It was akin to the old-time favorite of comedians Abbott and Costello's comedic play on words ("Who's on First?") etc. On the right, Lyle KØLFV, Al WØRC, and John WØWY discussing upcoming Club events. The evening was informally conducted, with members and families enjoying this pre-Christmas time. (More Photos on p.4)

— Events Calendar —

Sat., Jan. 2, Club Breakfast @ 9 @ Northwind Grille—Brd.
.Sat., Jan. 16, Club Breakfast @ 9 @ Northwind Grille —Brd.
Note: Technology Group Mtg after this BRKFST—to be held at Consolidated Telephone Cooperative.—Brd.—More Details Later.
Sat., Jan. 23, Jaycees Annual Fishing Extravaganza—ops needed
Thurs., Jan..28 Regular Monthly Board & BAARC membership Mtgs. @ 4 and 7 P.M. @ Brd. Fire Hall.
Sat., Feb. 13, St. Cloud Hamfest—see page 6.
Sat., Feb. Mid-MN 150 Sled-Dog Race—ops needed

**Please Pay Your 2016 Dues
Join/Rejoin—Still only \$20 Dues/ Year—see p. 5—Please get
your check in to Doug KDØERE.**

Thursday-December 17, 2015 - 4:00 PM - BAARC Board Meeting Minutes
No Board Meeting Held

President: Steve Mott, NØCRM
Vice President: Lyle Amundson, KØLFV
Treasurer: Doug Bergsnev, KDØERE
Secretary: Ron Finger, KØGOP

Past Presidents: Charles Lane, W5CCL; Al Doree, WØRC
Director-At-Large: Al Doree, WØRC
Repeater Trustee: Fritz Bertelt WØKO
Emergency Communications Director: John Luce, WØWY

Thursday-December 17, 2015 - 7:00 PM - BAARC Membership Meeting Minutes
Brainerd Fire Station

Attendees: The Vice President opened the Club membership business meeting at 7:05 PM with 32 members and guests present.

Secretary's Report: Membership roster shows 64 paid members for 2015. Several members have paid for 2016 and all are encouraged to renew for 2016 at the same low \$20 rate. The Club website was updated for December including the December BAARCer. **Motion to accept:** Al WØRC, **Second** Lyle KØLFV, **Passed**.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer's report submitted showing all month's account transactions and balances to date.
Motion to accept: John WØWY, **Second** Al WØRC, **Passed**.

Membership Meeting Program: President Steve NØCRM reviewed recent and future Club programs and events. Future Club programs possibilities include: **ARRL Division Update**, and a **Short Subject night** covering several technical areas.

Upcoming Events: Dates were announced for the **Brainerd Jaycees Ice Fishing Extravaganza:** January 23, 2016, **Mid-MN 150 Sled Dog Race:** February 13th, 2016, **Brainerd HamFest:** April 16, 2016, and **Brainerd Jaycees Run for the Lakes Marathon:** April 30, 2016.

Digital & Emergency Communications: Al WØRC gave a demonstration of the new Fusion Repeater System using the **CL-100 Controller**. TJ KØTEG presented an online-fillable form for **Club Repeater Coverage Reports** that he has made to collect data to incorporate into a Google based coverage map. Tom KDØMOM announced the dates for the **2016 Bike MS: TRAM Ride**, coming through the Brainerd area July 20-24. Operators will be needed to man rest stops, sag wagons, etc. More info at http://main.nationalmssociety.org/site/TR/Bike/MNMBikeEvents?pg=entry&fr_id=27184

Mordecai (Dave) KDØVJL read a humorous (if somewhat convoluted) story of a courtroom oath gone wrong. Lyle KØLFV presented some seasonal amateur radio videos including a HAM version of "The Night Before Christmas." Lyle also had several tables filled with unsold amateur radio items from the Clubs donated supply. These were offered to Club members for a voluntary donation to the Club. This was a fun addition to the holiday party and beneficial for the Club and members alike.

Following the short business meeting the group enjoyed a wide variety of snacks and refreshments brought by members, while socializing with each other. A good time was had by all.

--Respectfully submitted by **Ron KØGOP**, Secretary

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K7RA Propagation Notes:

The Winter Solstice was three days ago, on Tuesday, December 22, 2015. Now the days will get longer for the next six months, until the Summer Solstice in the Northern Hemisphere, June 20, 2016.

Spring begins at the Vernal Equinox, March 19-20, 2015.

As the days get longer, HF conditions will generally improve in the Northern Hemisphere.

DX and the Paper Chase

A very Merry and Blessed Christmas to you and yours and...a Happy and Healthy New Year. A quick overview of DX for the past 30 days might be described as spotty since band conditions varied throughout the period. European DX was mostly available in the morning hours with fair to good signals. On many afternoons I did mostly rag chewing around the country mainly on 17 meters. It's always a thrill to find an open frequency and have my CQ answered for an enjoyable chat with another operator. It's a lot more satisfying than social websites, and it's a lot more fun. I ordered the DVD from the Navassa Island DXpedition (K1N) that was produced by Bob Allphin, a world-class DXer and one of the operators on Navassa. Revisiting the event was both educational and entertaining. The video starts from the very beginning when the permit process started with the US Fish & Wild Life Department (the application process took 13 years) to the last QSO on the 15th of February. What a great bunch of dedicated men, dedicated to this hobby of ours and dedicated to bringing the worldwide DX community Navassa, the number 2 of the top 10 most wanted. Most of the DX community is aware of the expense of an event like Navassa and how complicated the logistics are. This DVD tells the story and I'm proud of having my call in their log as my connection to Navassa. The art of getting the QSL cards for DX contacts to those of you who are having issues with the process is quite simple and in my case its 99% perfect. Send your card with an SASE with postage from the country you worked in the envelope and \$1.20 postage on the outer envelope. Foreign postage is obtained from Bill Plum at plumdx@msn.com — Bill is accommodating and prompt. A tip: I buy all my postage from Bill and presently my \$.49 stamps are costing me \$.42 for mailing first class. You know the drill: call CQ and enjoy this fantastic hobby. So long from my house to yours. Best 73 and gud DX Bob/WØZPE —

Capt. Ron Finger (BAARC Secretary) and Cadets of the Crow Wing Composite Squadron of the Civil Air Patrol performed some Public Service ensuring a safe journey for Santa this Christmas 2015.

Using HF and working with NORAD (North American Aerospace Defense Command), the Santa Tracker Mission involved the Air National Guard and Air Force Reserves (Total Force). By the way, Finger, a five-year CAP member, was previously honored with the highest ratings for communications which the Air Force evaluated and certified. Some Cadets also received more training in communications during this event. NORAD said some 8 billion gifts delivered to happy recipients.

Editor's Note: Information from the *Brainerd Daily Dispatch* and local CAP.



On the left: Dave KDØVJL and Leon KDØAFZ.

Below: John W3MQD and Jim WØYA.



On the right: Roger WØWUG with Pat WØOPW looking at some old radio texts that were donated to the Club. Lyle KØLFV was kind enough to bring in boxes of not only books, but also ham gear/parts that members present could acquire by making a donation to the BAARC treasury. This is how we recycle for the good of our Club.

Below: One of the many food tables set up for the members' enjoyment. No one left hungry, we believe. Stan K3JKW, the two Neumann boys, Shirley KØDCW, and John W3MQD are also sampling the Christmas treats.



Photos in this BAARCer by Fritz WØKO. Even though he is not in any photos here, he managed to sample the treats.



Brainerd Area Amateur Radio Club

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

Dues Year January 1, 2016, to December 31, 2016

(One Application for Each Person)



Name: (First, MI, Last) _____ Call Sign: _____

Address: _____ License Class: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: (____) _____ - _____ Additional Phone: (____) _____ - _____

Date of Application: _____ Circle One: New / Renewal

E-mail Address: _____ Member ARRL ? Circle One: Y / N

The official Club newsletter, The BAARCer is available each month online at www.brainerdham.org/baarcer.

Select One: \$20 Full Member / \$10 Additional Family Member / \$10 Student Member

Note: For first-time members, pay \$5 per quarter for the time remaining in the year you join. For information on a life membership, contact Doug, Club treasurer: djbdesk@gmail.com

Membership Dues \$ _____

Voluntary Contribution \$ _____

Total Enclosed \$ _____

Make checks payable to BAARC The Club is a 501C3 non-profit organization. Contributions are tax deductible.

Mail to:

Brainerd Area Amateur Radio Club
Treasurer - Doug Bergsnev KDØERE
15912 Olsen Lane
Brainerd, MN 56401

I hereby make this application and agree to abide by the Club By-Laws.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Disclosure: This information will not be sold or given to another organization without express permission of the BAARC members.

Please mail one form, along with dues (check/money order), for each person who wants to be a member.

Check our Club's Website for other Information and Newsletters.
 Regular Updates on the Sunday Night Nets on 147.225
www.brainerdham.org

Free Ham Radio Licensing Classes Start

The classes start on **Thurs., Feb. 23rd**) and meet at the Brainerd Fire Hall. The classes will meet every Thursday thereafter. A possible review session before the Test Session may be included. The test is Saturday, **April 16**, conducted at the Brainerd Area Amateur Radio Club's annual Hamfest at the Armory. The cost of the current text is \$25 and payable at the first meeting.

The two very experienced and successful instructors are Doug Bergsnev, KDØERE, and Al Doree, WØRC. Both hold the Amateur Extra Class License. They have to order enough texts for those going for the Technician, General, and/or Extra licenses. Please contact them ASAP using their e-mail addresses: **djbdesk@gmail.com** and **w0rc@arrl.net**. They can also respond to any questions you may have about the classes, the three license types, etc. On **April 16th** you will have to pay a \$15 ARRL fee for the FCC test. Of course, beyond the text, the instruction is free—provided by the BAARC as a public service to the community.

Look for a Press Release on this topic this month in the local printed media.

There's a New Ham in the House — from *ARRL Letter*

US Rep Steve Pearce (R-NM) has become the third Amateur Radio licensee Congress. Pearce recently became KG5KIQ. He joins his House colleague, Rep Daniel Benishek, KB8TOW (R-MI), and Rep Greg Walden, W7EQI (R-OR). Note: US Rep Greg Walden, W7EQI (R-OR), is among the latest House members to sign on as an Amateur Radio Parity Act of 2015 cosponsor: In the Senate, MN. Senator Al Franken is co-sponsor of this bill.

St. Cloud Hamfest—Feb. 13th—More Info Later

The National Guard Armory
1710 Veterans Drive
Saint Cloud, MN 56303

General Admission: \$7.00

SCARC Members: \$6.00

Doors Open at 9:00 a.m.

Event Ends at 1:00 p.m.

Featuring A large collection of Amateur Radio vendors and information. Door prizes: Cash \$100, \$50, \$25(2); ARRL Gift Certificates \$50(2), \$25(2). Food: Chili, Hot Dogs, Chips, Various Pastries (while they last!), Soda, and Coffee.

An ARRL VE testing session will be held on the second floor of the armory. The session will begin at 10:00 a.m. and continue until completed. The testing fee is \$15.00, hamfest admission fee is NOT required or included. Note: you are required to bring one form of picture I.D. and a copy of your current FCC license if upgrading.

Vendor Information:

Supplied table fee: \$20.00 each, plus admission fees.

Bring your own table fee: \$10.00 each, plus admission fees.

Vendors will be allowed entry starting at 6:00 a.m. from the south (back) side of the armory. Check-in at the registration table to fill out the required tax forms and pay your fees before starting your setup. Pre-registration is strongly encouraged! To register, or request more vendor information, please E-Mail Art Carlson at: This email address is being protected from spambots. You need JavaScript enabled to view it. . ">wa0njr@gmail.com .

Shown here is a Photocopy of very first issue of QST, December 1915, p. 8. Commemorative Reissues are now available from the League, which is where Fritz WØKO got his. Dues at that time were 25 cents. Note that the ARRL and its early leaders volunteered hams' service to our government. Remember history? This was the WWI era. H. P. Maxim (W1AW) and C. Tuska, two early founders of the League, supported the organizational effort by themselves—until membership grew to support ham radio collectively.

December Radio Relay Bulletin

SEASON OPENING.

The cool weather has arrived, "static" is getting better every night, and the owners of relay stations are returning to their instruments. It is time to send out another official QST from headquarters. There is much to tell not only our membership, but also every amateur in the country.

First of all; we are confronted with extremely serious national questions. Our country has never before faced a more serious situation. National defense has become a question which every American realizes concerns him personally. The President is preparing plans and the Army and the Navy are both studying carefully every phase of the problem. One of the most important factors is Radio Communication. The great possibilities of the American Radio Relay League, with its organization of over six hundred relay stations in nearly every state of the Union are bound to attract prominent attention. The directors of the League have anticipated this, as will be noted on another page.

Of equal importance is the matter of RELIABILITY and CELEBRITY, as far as the transmission of messages by the League is concerned. We have had a year's experience and we have learned many things. We have found our membership enthusiastic and willing but we have not been efficient always in getting messages through. The directors have something to say on this point, which the membership should carefully note.

The matter of frequent issue of Bulletins to the membership has been something which has been given thought, and every amateur should think carefully about what the Directors say about this important subject.

NATIONAL DEFENCE. OUR SERVICES OFFERED TO GOVERNMENT.

When it became evident that our government intended to seriously take up the question of improving our national defense,

the following letter was prepared and sent to the Secretary of the Navy:—

Secretary of the Navy,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:—

In connection with your plans for national defense, it may be that the organization of the AMERICAN RADIO RELAY LEAGUE, INC. will be of service. We respectfully present the following information concerning this League.

It has been in operation one year. Its membership consists of over six hundred amateur radio stations in thirty-eight states of the Union. Except for gaps in the southern tier of states, we are able to communicate to all important points at the present time.

A list of our official relay stations is given in the enclosed "LIST OF STATIONS." There are over two hundred additional stations which have been appointed and which are awaiting publication of the third edition of our List.

The development of this League of amateur wireless telegraph stations has been carried on under the full knowledge of the Bureau of Navigation, Department of Commerce. Frequent conferences are held between our Chairman and the Commissioner of Navigation, and his assisting District Radio Inspectors. The League is managed strictly in accordance with a spirit of co-operation with Government authority. Our influence in correcting small technical infractions of the radio laws has already been successfully exercised in several instances.

In order to insure transmission along trunk line routes, the Bureau of Navigation have issued to certain stations indicated by this League, a Special License to use a transmitting wave length of 425 meters. The regular amateur is limited to 200 meters. Several of the Special Licenses have already been issued where the geographical location suggests their value. During the next sixty days, we hope that several new Special Licenses will be issued to stations in the Middle and Far West, which will be of great assistance to us in reaching Pacific Coast points with certainty and despatch.

SUNDAY NIGHT NCS OPS

01-03-16	Rick	NØBJN
01-10-16	Doug	KDØERE
01-17-16	Dave	KCØTGT
01-24-16	TJ	KØTEG
01-31-16	Fritz	KØTEG
02-07-16	Rick	NØBJN
02-14-16	Doug	KDØERE
02-21-16	TJ	KØTEG
02-28-16	Fritz	WØKO

Can't make the schedule? Find a substitute operator. BAARC Sunday Night Net Control Coordinator is Fritz WØKO. To volunteer: w0ko "at" arrl.net

Would you like to take a turn at NCS?

Thanks to the 2016 Officers who were brave enough to allow standing again for office. We in the BAARC appreciate their continued sacrifice.

Thanks to the Technical Team for keeping our Club's systems going: Lyle KØLFV, Al WØRC, Mitch ADØHJ, Ron KØGOP, TJ KØTEG, and others. **Thanks** also to the generous lady in the Club-- **Shirley KØDCW**--who always manages to get the refreshments and drinks lined up and served at our meetings and other events.

Note from Al WØRC: Whenever the .225 repeater is not operational, go to the .700 or .030. The Tech crew is working with him trying to get the bugs out of our new Yaesu repeaters & controllers.

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**The Officers and Members of the BAARC wish all associated with this fine Club a very Merry and Blessed Christmas--along with a healthful and prosperous 2016.**

United We Stand



**FIRST CLASS MAIL**  
Address Correction Requested

Brainerd Area Amateur Radio Club  
c/o M. Fritz Bertelt WØKO  
16167 Ahrens Hill Road  
Brainerd, MN 56401